

# WESSEX NEWS

VOL. 1 No. 5

APRIL 28TH, 1936

PRICE TWOPENCE

## VOX.

### University College, Southampton.

I write as one who has been connected with education in Hampshire in different capacities, for many years, and who regards University College as the apex of our local education system. It is not for Hampshire alone that it occupies that position; it is the natural source of university education for the area. But university institutions are not local; every such body has its own character and attracts students from the whole country—indeed, the whole empire—according as they wish to take advantage of its individuality; nor is it only the character of the institution; the eminence or repute of a single professor attracts students who want to study in his subject to come to it for the privilege of working under him.

It was in the year 1910 that I first became actively connected with the College. It was then in reality no more than a technical school. The spirit of the institution deepened with the enlargement of its outlook and the widening of the scope of its work, and it gained much by the appointment of Dr. Hill in 1913. He came straight from the headship of a College in Cambridge, and his high scientific attainments, his kindly nature and his capacity for friendship had their effect on the unity and the endeavour of the College. His work was carried on by Principal Loveday in his short reign, and now we feel, and with gratitude, the vigour of our present Principal, his insight into the needs and potentialities of the College, and gift of enlisting sympathy for it, whether among the citizens of Southampton, its neighbours in the County, or of the authorities on whom our financial existence depends.

We owe, too, a debt which it is hard to overestimate, to our two Presidents, the Duke of Wellington and Dr. Montefiore. The Duke took endless trouble to know the business of the College, and his presence, at once kindly and dignified, influenced the tone and standing of the place over which he presided. Then came Dr. Montefiore, with whose generosity, wisdom in council and loveable nature, we are too familiar to need words from me.

I have always thought it a test of the real value of a great educational body that it can inspire among those who work in it, teachers and students, a loyalty to itself, and during my connection with the College I have met many instances—one recently in a

distant part of the empire—of readiness to serve it, generous unselfishness, and recognition of what they owe to it. The University Grants Commissioners were struck with the devotion and enthusiasm of all its members for the place to which they belonged. Beauty of buildings does much to stimulate our love for a place, and I think we are happy in the quiet dignity of our three Halls, and the new Library, which forms such an imposing entrance to the main College buildings.

And now, what of our future? Our ambition is to become a University, but let us not think too much of that now. Our immediate object is to do university work; our future status will depend on the success we have achieved in that work. Besides sending out men and women highly educated in arts or science, our duty is to add to knowledge by research, for a university institution is judged by its contribution to the world's knowledge. We have to think of both arts and science in the widest sense, and to make the students feel that if they want the best and most advanced knowledge on a subject Southampton is one of the places where they can get it.

We cannot do that in every branch of knowledge, but there are certain spheres in which our local conditions give us a close contact with reality and where consultation is possible with those engaged in the practical work which depends on research. The most obvious of those is engineering, but there are other subjects for which local conditions mark us out as the natural place for research. The biological work already being done on the Avon is an example, but I could imagine also that we could lead in geology, in the study of tides, and in historical research in the development of local government. Genuine work in any branch of knowledge is a strength to a university.

But success or failure depends primarily on the student body. A high tone in conduct, a contempt for extravagance in thought or manner, recognition of the value of College friendships and of what undergraduates do by their intercourse to educate one another, and the obligation to work for others as well as ourselves—these and many other things are what we look back on in later life as what we learnt at College, and the things which have helped us in life.

J. S. Furley.

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# WESSEX NEWS

Tuesday, April 28th, 1936.

## Offices:

STUDENTS' UNION, UNIVERSITY COLLEGE, SOUTHAMPTON.

Editor: Alastair Geddes.

Sports Editor: D. Tyerman, Esq.

Business Manager: N. W. Hodgkinson.

## EDITORIAL.

Summer Term, a theme for lyrics and Lynds rather than College editorials. All-day cricket, evenings by the river or at the Swan, the glamour of Southampton Water as you come across on the ferry—these are ours for the taking; days when to argue that if God meant man to study in June, then the only sane faith is atheism, seems the purest logic. If a man does not dream of heaven in the Summer Term he will find living there very difficult. Yet is there not some tag about the 'descensus Averno' being very steep; how near is hell to heaven when men must reflect that they have been so sublimely foolish as to pay six guineas to do that which, had they the money, they would pay sixty to avoid? The dog days are indeed upon many of us—the fever of finals, the carefully kept calm during the exam., the slackened pulse of the somewhat purposeless days that follow: what foolishnesses are these, when a man will work when he would not, or will not if an uneasy mind urges him to do yet more, when even, more than one will be found eating for his diet lest he get livid during The Days and his scintillating mind be dulled by dyspepsia.

.....

We should like to thank those, particularly the Principal, who have done so much for us, in making the paper known to Old Hartleyans and friends of the College, and would point out that if other people were all to be equally enthusiastic we could probably double our circulation and achieve permanently the wish of our hearts—a penny press.

.....

1. The Editor is not responsible for the views expressed in signed articles.

2. Correspondents are asked to make their letters as brief and to the point as possible.

3. The Editor regrets that, owing to lack of space, it is impossible to print Society reports unless they have genuine news value.

We would draw attention to the visit of the American Debating Team who are arriving at Southampton on the Georgic to-day: the debate on Wednesday night will, we gather, be on the subject of American 'flicks' being bad for the morals.

# In Brief.

## REFECTORY IN RUINS.

We learn with mixed feelings that the present Refectory Building, after expert investigation, has been condemned as unlikely to remain standing for another twelve months and impossible to repair. The appropriate Committees have advised the College Council to take steps to meet this situation and we shall be interested to hear what action is to be taken.

.....

We learn that the construction of the new Physics Building has come a stage nearer by the invitation of the College authorities for tenders for its erection.

.....

Readers will probably have noticed that amongst the increased items of public expenditure for the coming financial year is, or will be, the grants to university institutions from the Treasury Grant Commission. It is hoped that this College will participate in this increased grant, and so be enabled to advance still nearer to university status in its development.

.....

There will come into residence at the beginning of this term, under a new scheme inaugurated by the British Council, seven foreign students, two from Lithuania, two from Estonia, one from Spain and one from Sweden, all these being men who will live in New Hall, together with one woman from Yugoslavia who will reside in Highfield. These students will remain for a term's course, and it is understood that the recruitment of foreign students in this way will be a very satisfactory arrangement, and should be of valuable assistance to College life.

.....

The new Assistant Librarian to take the place of Miss Evans is Miss M. I. Henderson, M.A. of Edinburgh University: after studying at the School of Librarianship Miss Henderson held a post at St. Andrew's University.

.....

Dr. Potter's marriage to Miss Doris MacKay took place at the Church of St. Francis of Assisi, Nollis Hill, on Easter Tuesday.

# DISTINGUISHED VISITORS.

## AUTHOR AND DAVIS CUP PLAYERS.

Saturday, May 9th, promises to be a most important date in the affairs of the Athletic Union, indeed of the College at large. On that day the College is to be visited by two famous Davis Cup players, and one well-known novelist. G. P. Hughes, at one time lecturer in Economics at this College and H. G. N. Lee, both members of English tennis teams which have won the Davis Cup, have kindly consented to open the new tennis courts by playing an exhibition match. This will probably take place in the morning of May 9th, and will be followed by similar ceremonies for the opening of the new Boat House, which we hope may be named after the man whose work has been most responsible for the development and maintenance of College rowing.

There will be a representative luncheon in New Hall, at which the guest of honour will be Ian Hay, the novelist, who will, in the afternoon, perform the opening ceremony by the river side. It is hoped that it will be possible to mark this occasion still further by securing a visit from the Reading University Boat Club, champions of the British Universities, to row against the College. The ceremony will be concluded with tea in the Athletic Pavillion.

We can only add that it is most gratifying that these two very gratifying developments in College Athletics should be marked by the visit of such distinguished people, and we fully appreciate the extent to which this occasion has been made possible by the assistance, on the one hand of the Students' Council, and on the other, of the College Council. The gratitude of the College is also due to Mr. Hughes, Mr. Lee and Mr. Ian Hay.

# The West Saxon.

For a year past, the *West Saxon* has been a source of controversy: that it is highbrow, coming from the people who are incapable of reading anything more advanced than the Saturday Football Results, and from others, that it is not sufficiently literary. It is obvious that to run it is difficult, since apparently contributions of any worth are so few, and the present number, in spite of some bright spots, cannot be said to reach a very high literary standard.

One or two articles, 'Quo Vadimus', 'Dream Vision' and 'This Music' were definitely worth reading, but a considerable amount of print seems to have been spent unnecessarily on such things as 'Anecdote', an admirable example of the *ye olde* and *penny dreadful* complex, and the long review of W. H. Auden's play recently running in London. Surely something better than these and long distance discussions on Christianity can be found.

This amplifies a criticism of the College as a whole: the staff of the *West Saxon* can only go half way in encouraging contributors; the College, or at least that large section of it which one would expect to be able to write a few lines of interesting verse or prose, is responsible for a good or bad *West Saxon*. This present number is not as good as a few of its fore-runners: it has the appearance of entering on the world all too unwillingly and thinking, rightly, that some of its parts had better remain in obscurity. This criticism is submitted in confidence that a little more energy and enthusiasm on the part of possible contributors would see a considerably better College magazine.

## THE FLAGRANT MOMENT.

### The Corporative Spirit.

My little ones, this world of ours is full of griefs and groans, because each single one of us his private objects owns, and all these ends are different and foster many a fight: how better far the world would be, if we'd but act aright! There's but one way to ease the pain of this world's daily toil and that is just to lubricate with Sympathy's sweet oil, to pull together like one man or like the College Eight, to show a strong united breast to the sly intrigues of Fate. The corporative spirit will inspire us to the best, will make us rise just like one man to every daily test. So let us try, my little ones, to reach this consummation by showing to the outside world a solid corporation.

Sympathy Hardt-Veldt.  
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# A. U. FLANNEL DANCE

SATURDAY — 6.45 p.m.

in the ASSEMBLY HALL

CHARLES WAYGOOD'S BAND

ADMISSION - 1/6

## ATHLETIC UNION.

## FIVE YEAR PLAN FOR THE GROUND!

## Grim Racing on the Tideway.

## PROSPECTS FOR THE TERM.

## HEAD OF THE RIVER RACE.

The race was rowed from Mortlake to Putney on the last day of last term. The VIII rowed in their own boat and the 2nd VIII rowed in the chinker division. Our times and places did not set the river on fire, but are as good as they have been in the past.

The VIII, starting 66th, rowed extremely well as far as Hammersmith Bridge, passing four crews and rowing with length and power. But finding the conditions rough below Hammersmith and particularly bad off Harrods they began to go to pieces, getting short and losing their rhythm. Robertson's efforts to steady them at a lower rate of striking were frustrated by "rushing" from the middle of the boat. The rough water continuing to Putney the crew did not really settle down again and finished 44th. If this is not all that we had hoped from the crew that did so well at Henley, we must not lose sight of the fact that it is one place better than last year which was our previous best.

The 2nd boat were condemned by the bungled entry which became so famous, to row in a very heavy boat and in fixed pins. However rowing in lovely company they had quite a pleasant race. They got away to a good start but Masterman lost the stream by hugging the bank before Barnes Bridge. After this and until Hammersmith, four crews were passed, Masterman making a good course between them and avoiding their wash, making the while encouraging noises that were audible even at bow. A very fast St. Catherine's crew coming up from behind provided racing up to Harrods, by which time they had got away.

From Harrods to Fulham Football ground was rank bad. The unaccustomed sluggishness of the work in such a heavy boat telling chiefly on the lighter members of the crew. Seven and bow became very short and two let the crew drop off. Things became worse until bow nearly upset the boat with an air-shot. This startled the whole crew into steadying themselves to row quite clearly down Fulham Wall. Stroke judged his finish well and got everything out of his crew, who backed him up well without getting unsteady. The place 10th is very lowly but the 60 places between 1st and 2nd boats only covered 47 seconds—the same time as between the two boats when we rowed Bristol.

## ATHLETIC UNION POLICY.

During the Vacation a Sub-Committee has been at work preparing a draft report which will be considered by the full committee early in this term. We learn that the recommendations made will include:—

1. The levelling of the Women's hockey pitch.
2. The provision of new cricket-screens.
3. The provision of new surroundings for the grass tennis-courts.
4. The renovation of the nets and posts of the Hockey, Soccer and Rugger Clubs.
5. The laying down of asphalt or concrete practice pitches with matting for the Cricket Club.
6. Bringing up to standard the field equipment of the Athletic Club by the provision of an adequate high-jump take-off, a two-way long jump and a satisfactory circle for the shot.
7. Augmenting the accommodation and storage space in the Pavilion, and redecorating the interior.

We understand that it is suggested that these changes should be made over a three or four year period, and we are interested to hear that this plan for development is to be accompanied by a programme for adequate maintenance. It is recommended, for instance, that:—

1. The routine of the ground staff should be co-ordinated by the Athletic Union Committee, and by the captains concerned.
2. Provision must be made for the proper maintenance of all equipment to prevent the need arising for uneconomic replacements.

The principle is laid down that 'Adequate development of facilities can only be worth while if proper provision is made for maintenance and repair, shelter, protection and renovation.' It is proposed that definite funds be built up for these purposes.

We understand that these are no more than recommendations which will be extensively reviewed by the full Committee, and we hope to publish in an early issue the full text of the final decisions made by that Committee.

## CRICKET PROSPECTS, 1936.

Last year saw the departure of many well-known 'Stags'—White, G. C., Dickie Miles, Gerry Whitehead, Gouge and Bunny Croston, the humourist. There are six colours left, of these four are essentially batsmen, two are bowlers, one of whom is unavailable. A sad prospect for the attack. Others whom we shall probably see in action are Bignell, who given his wicket, may prove to be the slow man we need; Thorpe, Bullock, Ridgeway and Morris. We have heard that Shaikh is a slow left-hander, what we need most therefore is a bowler or two of the consistency and stamina of Gouge.

College batting has always been at least potentially good. This year we have great hopes of Downer, who showed his calibre by several sparkling innings last year. He also bowls with the arm; Francis, Robinson and White should also make runs.

We have no wicket-keeper this year and we hope one will be found from amongst the Freshers.

On the whole, the season, providing more bowlers are forthcoming, should be well up to average and it will probably be marked by several outstanding individual performances.

One more word. We hope sincerely that last year's spirit will again be present this year. We have no Bunny Croston, but then each member of a team has his funny side—What of last year's Semi-Final at Reading?—we all remember G. C. White sitting on a bed insisting that he was Napoleon.

R. T. K.

## ATHLETIC CLUB NOTES.

Until U.C.S. becomes the University of Wessex and is able to hand out degrees irrespective of examination results to its sporting stalwarts, the Athletic Club cannot expect to get the best results as the examination ogre is an ever-present deterrent to proper training and real enthusiasm. This coming season will be no exception and opens in a more restrained atmosphere than most seasons. The Athletic Club is in the unenviable position of having all three officials under the examination spectre, in addition to a number of promising members. It will not, therefore, be surprising if the more experienced members tend to take a back seat in the competitive results. This being so, a great deal will depend upon the

freshers and 'middle men,' and it is to them that we shall turn.

We hope at the end of the season to be able to turn with thanks to our brother Club—the Cross Country—for their valuable work in training up a promising band of distance men. This summer should see a stronger three mile team in the Club than has been for two or three seasons. A stronger mile team may also be confidently anticipated. The big problem appears to be in the middle distances.

The sprints appear to be more hopeful and 10 1/5 should be no unusual occurrence under favourable conditions for the 100 yards, with a similar standard for the 220 yards. The hurdlers unfortunately have so often to be 'made' on arriving at College, that a lot cannot be expected in this event.

The field events should come well up to standard. Experienced men will be competing in the discus and weight. This it may be confidently hoped that the Club will be more successful than in the last two seasons and tend to return to the standards of three or four seasons back.

If only those people who did athletics at school would realise that they could be of great assistance to the Club, our standard could be automatically raised.

So juniors and others, what about it?

## TENNIS CLUB.

The prospects of the Tennis Club for the coming term are best dealt with under three separate headings:—the teams, the courts and the tournament.

## The Team.

The first team has great possibilities, in spite of the fact that we shall have to build up practically a new side. The team must realise the importance that tactics play in the game and it is hoped to arrange talks on match play during the term. This year a longer fixture list has been arranged for the second teams.

One of the weaknesses of College Tennis is the unsteadiness of the members of the team. They must get as much good practice as possible in between matches and remedy all little weaknesses.

Those persons requiring balls for practice may obtain used balls from the groundsman or from the Secretaries, price 3/6 per doz.

## Courts.

The College can justly pride itself on having some of the finest courts in the South of England. Whether they remain so depends on the attention given to them, not only by the ground staff, but also by the players. The Tennis Club are asked to do all they can to help by using them properly. These first six months are the most important in the life of the courts as they are consolidating and the undergrowth is bedding together. The extent of play will also depend on the weather. The

(continued on page 4)

SPORTS (continued from page 3)

Club is also this year fortunate enough to have the use of three grass courts opposite College. These should also be given consideration wear as the new turf will not yet have become firm.

**Tournament.**

A new departure this year is the tournament which is to go on during the term. Besides the usual Men's and Women's Level Singles there are to be Men's, Women's and Mixed Doubles Handicap. The Cups will be awarded for the level events and prizes for the others will be provided by charging an entrance fee of sixpence per person per event. Members of the staff will enter. A draw for partners will be made for those entering without a partner. All entries must be in by Monday, May 4th, and it is hoped to start the Tournament the following week. All matches must be umpired and score sheets and balls will be obtained from the Hall representative. The members of the Tournament Committee from whom entry forms may be obtained and returned to are, Miss J. Foster (Montifiore Hall), Miss G. Mead (Highfield Hall), Mr. K. C. Russell (Russell Hall), Mr. T. Bullock (Stoneham Hall), Mr. A. W. Ridgewell (Connaught Hall), Miss E. Clare and Mr. R. H. Collins.

**LATE FOOTBALL ECHO.**

Although the Soccer Club usually stages its face-act at the end of the Spring Term, this year has proved an exception. The Club has given a few spasmodic kicks since the end of last term, four matches having been arranged during the vacation.

The first match was played at Swaythling, with the Saracens as visitors. A rather lackadaisical game was lost by four goals to two.

The following Wednesday saw a stronger team play a 'Grand Charity Match' at Lynton, where the attractive daughter of Lord High Lieutenant of Somewhere kicked off. A very hard and fast game resulted and College have to thank a very determined defence for saving a point.

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**En-Tout Cas**

In the Autumn Term the Captain of Men's Tennis proposed that the existing hard courts should be reconstructed. The A. U. Committee were unanimous that something had to be done. It was only when they were informed of the estimated cost, about £230, that they began to demur.

The Treasurer spoke of the dangers of mortgaging the resources of the Union and Captains hinted at the risks of jeopardising the welfare of their particular games. The question was therefore deferred.

Mr. Collins is a man who is not easily deviated from his purpose, and it was not surprising to find him coming forward at a subsequent meeting with a scheme of finding the money. The Committee were informed that the Students' Council had been able to husband their resources to the extent of being able to lend the money to the Athletic Union on generous terms of repayment and this put an entirely different complexion on the case. The problem, however, was not completely solved, as the Committee felt that there should be forthcoming some additional income to assist them in the annual repayment of the loan to the Students' Council.

Mr. Collins again proved his resourcefulness, and was able to inform the Committee that it would be possible to make an arrangement for the partial letting of the Courts during the winter term and vacations, which would bring in the additional income required. All that remained to be done was to find a sum of £33 to complete the cost of the wire netting and trees to be planted round the Courts, and, as a gesture of their keen interest in the scheme, the College Council readily sanctioned a grant for this purpose.

The work of reconstruction began, under the vigilant eye of the Tennis Captain, and the courts are now finished.

A word of thanks is due to Professor Watkin and to Mr. Montague, for the unremitting care and attention which they have bestowed on the selection and planting of the surrounding trees, a row of willows on the far side, and hornbeams on the other three. At present they are but tiny shoots that have battled bravely and successfully against the icy cold weather of the last fortnight, but in time they will add considerably to the amenities of the Courts, and will afford that protection which is sorely needed against the prevailing breezes that have been so troublesome in the past.

**Correspondence.**

To the Editor of *Wessex News*,

Dear Sir,

A small fingers yet in my nostrils, that of fish and cottage pie on Friday, March 20th. During the summer, as is well-known, smells such as these are even more pervading. In all seriousness I suggest that the question of Refectory buildings and food, is one of extreme urgency. For myself I would willingly seek my own fodder, rather than be forced to drink a glass of water in that abode of rats six times a week. There has, I know, been a suggestion that lunch should be provided in Hall, but that raises the problem of returning for afternoon 'labs' and lectures, and even more, imperils the existence of lunch hour meetings. Is it not possible for us to be allowed to feed or starve in private until better conditions—a modern Refectory—can be obtained? I hope that in your columns some answer to this query may be forthcoming.

Yours etc., 'Cassius.'

**"WESSEX"**

This year's *Wessex* will be on sale in a few days' time: it is hoped on May 1st. *Wessex* is a journal that has been too often ignored by students: to many of us, in spite of its avowed aim of working towards the university status of this College, it has seemed pseudo-Olympian, being but little aware that universities exist for students as well as professors. Maybe the fault lay in ourselves, but at least this present number promises well from all our several points of view: the President of the Union's sermon of last term, poems by Phyllis Shields, a bibliography of John Barnes compiled by John Ruffell, these alone refute any claim that *Wessex* is no concern of ours.

Of general interest is an article on the Queen Mary, by Captain Wakeford, with a picture specially done for *Wessex* by Frank Mason, R.I., and if you are still not interested a drawing of one C. Taylor, by Dr. Lawtoun: who among us would not feel his passing years to be gladdened by a picture hung perhaps on one of our 'Outposts of Empire' of Charlie Taylor.

Dr. HEINRICHSDORFF.

It is with pleasure that we learn that Herr Paul Heinrichsdorff, for four terms German Lektor at College, who has been imprisoned awaiting trial on a charge of High Treason brought against him by the German Government, has now been brought to trial and will be released by the end of October next. We understand that his intention is then to leave Germany for Palestine: all our good wishes will go with him.

**Calendar.**

Monday, April 27th.

Term begins.

Tuesday, April 28th.

10 mile walk.

Public Lecture. Dr. Chang Peng-Chun on 'The Tradition and Technique of the Chinese Theatre.' Assembly Hall, 8.15 p.m.

Wednesday, April 29th.

Athletic Sports Heats. Montefiore Ground. American Debate. (See Notice Boards).

Thursday, April 30th.

Gardeners' Society. Uncommon Plants, by Major F. C. Stern.

Friday, May 1st.

Tutorial Interviews.

Saturday, May 2nd.

Athletic Sports. Montefiore Ground, 2 p.m. Athletic Union Flanned Dance, Charles Waygood's Band. Assembly Hall, 6.45 p.m.

Sunday, May 3rd.

Collegiate Service. St. Mary's, South Stoneham, 9.45 a.m.

**Advance Notices.**

May 9th.

Opening of new Tennis Courts and Boathouse.

May 15th.

Pudovkin's 'Storm over Asia.' Assembly Hall, 8.30. (Socialist Society).

May 29th and 30th.

Society of Old Hartleynans. Annual Reunion.

**JOBS!**

The College has arranged to invite Headmasters to a conference on 'Careers' on the 3rd and 4th of July. The object of the discussions will be to pool information about careers, with a view to deciding how best the schools and the universities can co-operate to distinguish between those careers for which it is desirable to have a university education and those on which it is preferable for the boy or girl to embark direct from school.

Sir Robert Whaley Cohen, who takes a prominent part in the oil industry, the Headmaster of Winchester, Major L. Urwick, Selridge & Co., Ltd., and many other industrial and commercial undertakings have agreed to participate in this conference, which should be a very practical contribution towards the solution of a great problem.

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